Casualty Assistance

...General Information

***This brief contains speaker notes.

1. Right-click, choose "Full Screen."
2. Right-click on "Speaker Notes".

MRC

Casualty Section

Mission Statement

Implement, execute, and manage the Casualty Assistance Program for the U.S. Marine Corps, which includes providing assistance to Marine Corps families with compassion, dignity, and honor.

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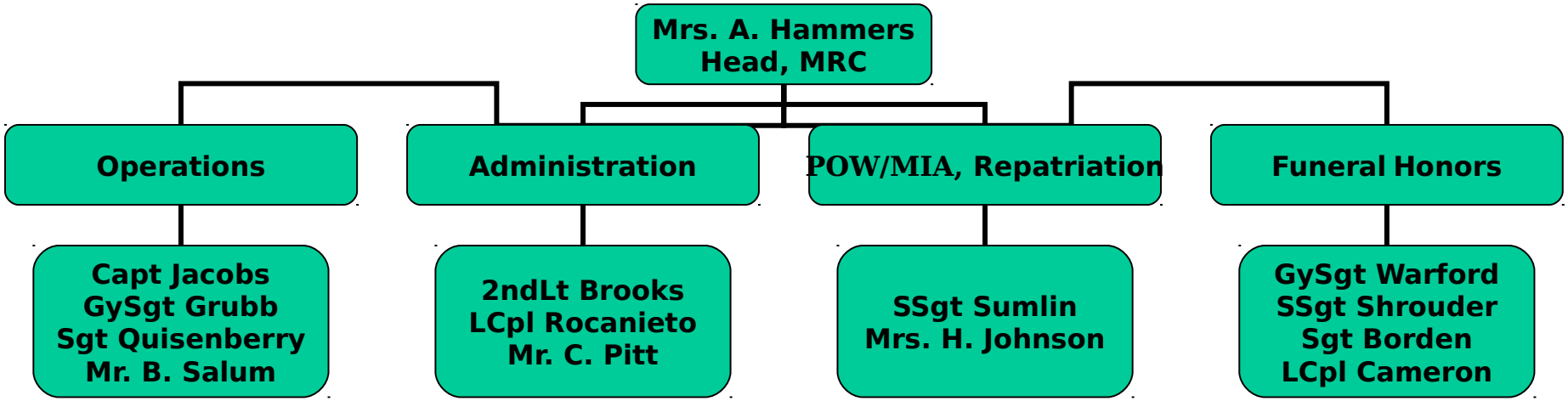
Casualty Section



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(703) 784-9512 DSN: 278 Fax: 4134
800-847-1597
Funeral Honors: 866-826-3628

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Casualty Section

- Marine Corps Casualty Assistance Program
- Marine Corps DNA Program
- POW/MIA, Repatriation Issues
- Marine Corps Military Funeral Honors Program
- Marine Corps State Funeral Participation
- Publish AIG for Death of General Officers
- Servicemembers Group Life Insurance (SGLI) Program

Topics of Discussion

- Casualty Definitions and Terms
- Notification Procedures
- Benefits
- Problem Areas

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Casualty

- Any Marine lost to the organization having been declared deceased, DUSTWUN, missing, ill, or injured.

Occurs any time…any place!

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Casualty Status

- Terms used to classify a casualty:
  - Seriously Ill or Injured (SI)
  - Very Seriously Ill or Injured (VSI)
  - Special Patient (SPECPAT)
  - **Not Seriously Injured (NSI) (multiple casualties only)**
  - Duty Status Whereabouts Unknown (DUSTWUN)
  - Missing
  - Deceased

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Deceased

- A status applicable to a person who is known to have died or is determined to be dead as the result of a finding of death or a presumptive finding of death
  - recovery of remains is not a prerequisite to declare a Marine deceased.

DUSTWUN

- (Duty Status-Whereabouts Unknown) - A transitory casualty status applicable only to military personnel, which is used when the responsible commander suspects the member may be a casualty whose absence is involuntary, but does not feel sufficient evidence currently exists to make a definite determination of missing or deceased.

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Missing

- A status applicable to a person who is not present at his or her duty location due to apparent involuntary reasons and whose location may or may not be known.
  - Commander may only *recommend*

Personnel Casualty Report (PCR)

- **Message containing casualty information and primary source of information** used in notifying the NOK
- Administrative rather than operational
  - OPREP3 - SIR
  - Sent immediately to MRC from the reporting unit
  - Contains accurate/verified information
  - Fax advance copy to MRC
  - Supplemental report

INFORMATION IS VITAL TO NOTIFICATION

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Next of Kin (NOK)

- Primary NOK - person most closely related to the casualty (spouse – married……Parents-single).
  - Normally directs disposition of remains and personal effects (PADD/PERE)
- Secondary NOK – All other NOK
  - Primary and Secondary will be personally notified in death cases
  - Primary will be telephonically notified in injury/illness cases
- PADD - Person Authorized to Direct Disposition of Remains
- PERE - Person Eligible to Receive Personal Effects

NOK Order of Precedence

DODI 1300.18

- Surviving spouse
- Children (natural, adopted, step) (seniority rules)
- Parents in order of seniority
- Blood or adoptive relative granted legal custody by a court decree or statutory provision
- Brothers/sisters in order of seniority
- Grandparents and other relatives of legal age in order of relationship

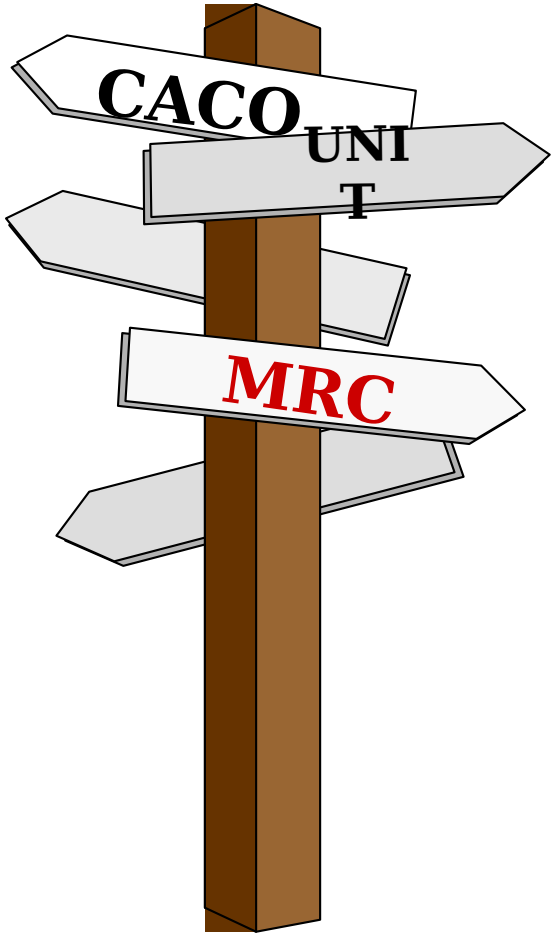
Beneficiary

- Individual designated to receive death benefits
- **Does not make this individual the primary NOK!!!!!!!!!**

Escort

- Individual assigned to accompany the remains from place of demise to place of burial
  - Special escort may be requested by NOK
  - One escort funded by CMC
  - Parent command may fund additional individual

Notification Procedures



- Parent Command Actions
- MRC Actions
- CACO Actions

- 8 Hours…

Parent Command Actions

- Call MRC IMMEDIATELY
- Prepare and submit PCR
  - PCR prepared by first USMC activity learning of casualty (parent command)
- Fax PCR to MRC

- Speed is essential in communicating information to NOK

MRC Actions

- Obtain signed RED, SGLI, DD Form 1966/1 or NAVMC 763 from SRB/OQR
- Locate and task closest unit to NOK to provide notification and assistance
- Brief unit/CACO on requirements and provide immediate guidance
- Provide CACO w/Guide to Benefits and Entitlements via email

CACO Selection

- Unit tasked by MRC. Any unit having sufficient assets to provide notification and assistance
  - Bases and Stations
  - I&I Staff
  - Geographically separated units and detachments
  - Recruiting activities
- Unit selects and assigns CACO
  - SNCO, warrant or commissioned officer
  - Equal or higher rank than deceased
  - Possesses ability to represent the Marine Corps

Casualty Assistance Calls Officer (CACO)

- Individual responsible for representing the Commandant and the Marine Corps with the NOK.
- Acts as advisor
  - Serves as liaison with other agencies (VA, SSA, DFAS, OSGLI, HQMC)
  - Assists with funeral arrangements and completion/submission of claim forms
  - Provides disposition instructions for personal effects/HHG and mail to the parent command

Notification

- 0500 - 2400 (unless directed)
- Uniform - Service “A” or Blue Dress
- Never make notification alone - always take another Marine along
  - serves as witness and assistant
  - Chaplain, Corpsman, local clergy
- Utilize the local police or post office for assistance in locating the NOK
- Contact parent command before making notification

Notification

- Make sure the correct individuals are being addressed by confirming the identity
- CACO should identify him/herself as a representative of the Commandant of the U.S. Marine Corps
- Attempt to enter the home rather than provide notification through the door
- Paraphrase the circumstances as described in the PCR or provided by CMC (MRC) and parent command

Notification

- Don’t hurry the words, speak as naturally as possible
- Avoid making detailed statements about the incident unless known and factual
- Do not speculate or provide opinions – pass only known facts
- Inform the NOK that an investigation will be conducted and a copy will be provided upon request
- Provide the appropriate condolences on behalf of the U.S. Marine Corps

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Notification

- Verify NOK's name, address, telephone number, and SSN (if applicable)
- Remain as long as necessary
- If alone, offer to contact a family member or friend
- If requested to leave – DEPART!
- Leave a business/calling card with the NOK

Contact MRC and parent command w/notification time and verified information (other agencies both internal and external to the Marine Corps are interested)

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Casualty Assistance Call Package (CACPac)

- FedEx to CACO within 24-48 hours:
- Contains:
  - Information booklet for CACO (if not provided)
  - Information booklet for the NOK
  - Honorable Service Certificate/Lapel Pin
  - Information/condolence letter from MRC
  - Pamphlets from various support agencies
  - VA Information booklet
  - Report of Casualty (DD Form 1300)

May include the death gratuity check!

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Benefits

- Requires only CACO assistance.

Benefits

- Death Gratuity (paid by law within 48 hrs)
  - $6,000 ($3,000 exempt from tax)
  - Paid to the Primary NOK or as designated
    - Married vs. Single
    - Spouse, Child(ren), as designated
      - DD Form 397
- Arrears of Pay (AP) (as designated)
      - SF 1174

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Benefits

- SGLI (as designated)
  - Paid by Prudential Alliance Account (PAA)
  - Truth or myth?
    - Suicide…seatbelts…out of bounds… helmet…committing a crime?
  - No coverage
  - UA/Deserter and Appellate Leave
  - Killed by beneficiary
    - SGLV 8283
- FSGLI – Continues for 120 days
- Beneficiary Financial Counseling Services (BFSC)

Benefits

- Burial Allowances
  - Mortuary Affairs (MMSO) Great Lakes, IL
  - Funeral and/or Interment Expenses ($6,075)
    - Primary - $1,750 (prepare and encase)
    - Secondary – (burial)
      - $4,325 (private cemetery)
      - $3,000 (national cemetery)
      - $6,900 (no government involvement)

Benefits

- Headstone or Marker (VA)
  - VA Form 21-2008
- Memorial Flag Display Case (MMSO)
  - Flag Case Request
- Marine Corps Floral Tribute ($81.00)
  - Fax invoice to MRF (HQMC)
- Travel to Burial
  - Spouse and children (parent if not used)
  - 2 days per diem
    - Fax ITO Worksheet to MRC

Benefits

Joint Federal Travel Regulations (JF

- Invitational Travel Orders (ITO)
  - Travel to Bedside
    - Serious ill/injured or worse condition
    - Doctor's Statement
    - Two family members
    - Transportation only….no per diem!
      - Red Cross and Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society may offer assistance

Benefits

- Transportation of Family Members (PCS)
  - Separation appropriation data
- Household Goods/Personal Effects
- Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH)
- ID Cards
- Thrift Savings Plan (TSP)
- Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP)
  - *T/PDRL
  - Retirement eligible
  - Active Duty

*selects beneficiary

Benefits

- DIC- Paid by the VA
  - DIC Worksheet – awarded in 48 hours of receipt
- Social Security Benefits
- MGIB/VEAP Refund (SGLI beneficiary)
- Medical/Dental Coverage (36 months)
  - Update DEERS
- Support Services…NMCRS, Red Cross, MCCS
- Educational Opportunities/MC-LEF
- Benefits paid to minors are governed by state law

Benefits vary from case to case

CACO Report

- Due 30 days after receipt of CACPac

- Documents assistance
- Assists in addressing problem areas
- Recommendations for improvements
- Included in the Marine's OMPF

Temporary/Permanent Disability Retired List (T/PDRL)

- Death imminent situations (72 hours)
- Contact military medical treatment center
  - PEB convened
  - Member or representative consents to board findings
- MMSR-4 issues separation authority
- Parent command separates Marine
  - MRC monitors for 120 days
  - Provide separation documents to MRC

Temporary/Permanent Disability Retired List (T/PDRL)

- Advantages
  - Additional benefits for survivors
    - SBP selected by the Marine or representative
    - SGLI extended for 1 year vice 120 days
    - Retired pay computed at 75 vice 50 percent
      - time in service doesn’t matter
    - VA Disability Compensation
    - Additional 10K life insurance from VA
  - Allows for return to active duty

Temporary/Permanent Disability Retired List (T/PDRL)

- Less Advantageous
  - No BAH
  - Death Gratuity payments takes longer
  - No burial benefits – unless retired/retained and death occurs within 120 days
  - Must pay for medical/dental right away as a retiree

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TDRL vs. Active Duty

Survivors = Spouse and 2 year old Child

	Active Duty
TDRL	
Death Gratuity $6K	**$6K**
SGLI / VA $250K/$10K	**$250K/$0**
Funeral Expenses $6,075	**$6,075**
DIC (Spouse $948 – Child $247) $1,195	**$1,195**
Arrears of Pay ???	**???**
Retirement Pay (RP) ($2,000)	**None**

Problems Areas

RED

MRC

MCO P3040.4E

Marine Corps Casualty Procedures Manual

Problems Areas

PCR

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QUESTIONS

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Taking Care of Our Own

Marine Casualty